

Def. Doc. # 2133

*Not used*  
Exhibit #

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL  
FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al)  
vs  
ARAKI, Sadao, et al

AFFIDAVIT



DEPONENT: MAEDA, Masami

I. MAEDA, Masami, make oath and say as follows:

I am living at No. 1252 5-Chome, Nishi-Nakanobu, machi, Ebara-ku, Tokyo City.

I have been acquainted with the accused ARAKI these twenty years. I was private secretary to him from the summer of 1932 till January 1934 when he was War Minister. In January 1934 he was bedridden with pneumonia, and during his illness he often called me to his sick bed in order to dictate letters and make me discharge my other general duties as secretary. On one of these occasions he handed me an article in his own handwriting in which he set forth basic suggestions for emergency policies to cope with the serious crisis Japan was confronted with at that time, telling me to make 21 copies of it and to have several ready to submit to the then Premier Viscount S. ITO. At the same, he dictated a letter to me regarding his presentation of the above-mentioned document containing his intentions and reasons for resigning the portfolio of War Minister.

He told me to make about as many copies of this letter as the document and to have them ready to submit to the above-mentioned Premier S. ITO.

I made as many copies as requested and handed thirteen or fourteen copies to Vice Minister Y. NAGAWA, as I was told, asking him to present them to the Premier.

On the same day Vice Minister Y. NAGAWA visited Mr. ARAKI in his sick bed and informed him in my hearing that he had fulfilled his duty of submitting the documents to the Premier. For further reference I preserved a copy of "Basic Suggestions for Emergency Policies" and the letter regarding the presentation of the document; these have been in my custody since 1934. I hereby certify that these documents attached are true and correct copies of those handed to Y. NAGAWA with a view to submitting them to the Premier in 1934.

FILE COPY  
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At the request of the Defense Counsel of the accused  
ARAKI, I have handed these documents to him for use at  
any appropriate phase in the court.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAEDA, Masami (seal)

Subscribed and sworn to before the under-signed  
officer by the above-named MAEDA, Masami, at the War  
Ministry Building, Tokyo, Japan, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
August 1947.

\_\_\_\_\_

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## 供述書

私前田正實ハ正式ニ宣誓ノ上次ノ如ク證言致シマス私ハ東京市原區西中延  
 町五丁目一二五二番地ニ住居シテ居リマス  
 私ハ被告荒木閣下トハ二十年來ノ知り合ヒデアリマシテ荒木閣下ガ陸軍大臣  
 ノ職ニ在ル間一九三二年夏カラ一九三四年一月マデ其ノ秘書官トシテ奉職致  
 シマシタ。一九三四年一月荒木閣下ハ肺炎ニ冒サレ臥床サレルコトトナリマ  
 シタ。此ノ臥床期間中閣下ハ闇下ノ手紙ノ口述筆記並ニ秘書官トシテノ一般  
 業務遂行ノ爲屢々私チ病床ニ御呼ビ寄セニナリマシタ。  
 其ノ折ノ或ル時ノ事デアリマスガ閣下ハ御自筆ノ當時日本ガ直面セル非常危  
 機ニ對應スル施策基礎要項案ヲ書イタ書類ヲ封緘<sup>シ</sup>私ニ渡サレマシテ同書ヲ  
 二十一通作成シ其ノ中ノ數通ヲ當時ノ總理大臣齊藤子爵ニ御届出來ルヤウ用  
 意セヨト命ビラレマシタ同時ニ又閣下ハ御自分で私ニ陸軍大臣辭任ノ意向並  
 ュ其<sup>ノ</sup>理由ヲ包含シタ前記書類提出ニ關スル手紙ヲ口述サレマシタ  
 閣下ハ此ノ手紙モ大體施策案ト同數作製ノ上前記齊藤首相ニ御届出來ルヤウ  
 シタノデアリマス  
 私ハ御命令ニ從ヒ前記ノ部數ヲ作製致サセマシテ其ノ中十三通カ十四通カチ  
 明下ノ御命令ニ從ヒ陸軍次官柳川閣下ニ御渡シシ總理大臣ニ提出方ヲ依頼致

to that of War Minister ARAKI. The Premier did not in any way suggest that he had any intention of petitioning to the

同日ノ事デアリマシタガ柳川陛下ハ臥床中ノ荒木閣下ヲ訪問サレテ同書類ノ提出ヲ終リ使命ヲ遂行シタ旨ヲ私ノ聞イテ居ル處デ荒木陛下ニ報告シテ居ラレマシタ私ハ此ノ緊急施策基礎案並ニ同案提出ニ關スル手紙ノ各一部ヲ手許ニ控ヘトシテ殘シテ置キマシテ一九三四年以來今日迄其レチ保管シテ來タ譯デアリマス。私ハ此等ノ書類ガ一九三四年ニ總理大臣ニ提出ノタメ柳川陛下ニ御渡シシタ書類ノ眞正ニシテ正確ナル控ヘデアルコトヲ確實ニ斷言出來ルノデアリマス。

被告荒木擔當辯護人ノ要求ニ依リ法廷ニ於テ適當ト認ムル方面ニ使用スル爲茲ニ此ノ書類ヲ同辯護人ニ御渡シ致シマス。

前 田 正 美

一九四六年十一月十九日 余、一四二前ニ於テ宣誓。併述セルヲ証ス。

即決單審裁判所  
鶴重隊大尉

(署名) ローバンド、デニ、シニフニツ

Chang Hsuehliang

At the time when I assumed the post as Vice Chief of the General Staff, Premier INUKAI, while he has explained chiefly the financial plight and economic difficulties that Japan was experiencing at that time, he also made some remarks on the situation which were more or less similar to that of War Minister ARAKI. The Premier did not in any way suggest that he had any intention of petitioning to the